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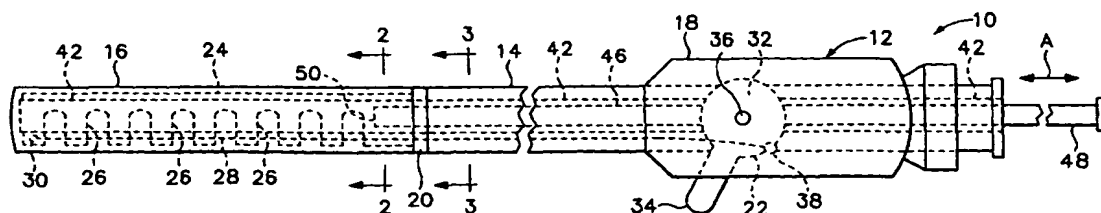
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(54) Title: **VARIABLE CURVE CATHETER**



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is a deflectable tip guiding device, such as a catheter (10), that enables a physician, or other health care personnel, to vary the radius of curvature of the tip of the device. In one embodiment, a guiding device (10) includes an elongate body (14) and a deflectable distal tip (16). An elongate stiffener tube (46) is coupled to the body for longitudinal movement relative thereto and has a distal end spaced a variable distance from the distal end of the tip, thereby serving as a fulcrum for the tip. Longitudinal movement of the stiffener tube (46) relative to the body varies the distance between the distal ends of the tip and tube, which in turn causes a corresponding increase or decrease in the radius of curvature of the tip.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/36210

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61M 37/00

US CL : 604/95.01 to 95.05, 524, 525, 526, 527

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 604/95.01 to 95.05, 524, 525, 526, 527

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
noneElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
none**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,454,787 A (Lundquist) 03 October 1995 (03.10.1995), See figures 1-4.	1-44
A	US 5,381,782 A (DeLaRama, et al.) 17 January 1995 (17.01.1995), See figures 5-9.	1-44

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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